



CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE
COST ESTIMATE

October 27, 1999

H.R. 20
Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River Mongaup
Visitor Center Act of 1999

*As ordered reported by the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources
on October 20, 1999*

H.R. 20 would authorize the National Park Service (NPS) to enter into a 99-year lease with the state of New York for state-owned land located near the Delaware Scenic and Recreational River. The act also would authorize the NPS to construct and operate a visitor center on the leased land. Finally, the legislation would extend the life of the Upper Delaware Citizens Advisory Council (UDCAC) for an additional 10 years. The council, which had advised the NPS on managing the area, expired in February 1999.

Based on information provided by the NPS and assuming appropriation of the necessary amounts, CBO estimates that the agency would spend about \$7 million over the next four years to construct a visitor center on land leased from New York. We estimate that the costs of the long-term lease would be negligible. Once the center has been completed, the NPS would spend about \$600,000 annually to operate it.

CBO estimates that extending the life of the UDCAC would have no significant effect on federal spending. Until the council expired, the NPS provided it with about \$10,000 annually for administrative expenses such as travel.

H.R. 20 would not affect direct spending or receipts; therefore, pay-as-you-go procedures would not apply. The act contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act and would impose no costs on state, local, or tribal governments.

On September 29, 1999, CBO submitted a cost estimate for H.R. 20 as ordered reported by the House Committee on Resources on September 22, 1999. The House version of the legislation did not include the extension of the UDCAC.

The CBO staff contact is Deborah Reis. This estimate was approved by Peter H. Fontaine, Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.